NUMBER 122

## QUESTIONS OF LABOR ABLY DISCUSSED

The Hon, R. A. Maynard Writes a Comprehensive and Trenchant Paper Bristling With Facts

ON THE CONDITION OF LABOR, PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

His Researches Into the History of the Wage System and the Earlist Hardships and Trials of Wage Workers-Our Own System Examined, and Pronounced Opinions Expressed on the Inevitable Future.

compalsory conditions, such as slavery or serfdom, but of free labor, or the labor of persons having the primary right to determine whether they will labor or not, and to fix the compensa-tion and other conditions under which they will exercise such right. Our article, dealing as it does with freedom to work for a pecuniary consideration, a right conceded only after ages of struggle often barbarous and bloody, must necessarily be introduced by a brief retrospective view of the past condition of labor whether bond or free.

brief retrospective view of the past condition of labor whether bond of free.

Michigan, in reality, hardly possesses a "labor law history." Rich in minerals and agricultural wealth, sparse in population, and young in political organization, she has just began to feel the effects of pressure upon the means of subsistence, and the consequent and inevitable struggle between those that have and those that have not. Labor legislation in this state goes back excreely a decade. We believe we are right in saying that not until the rise of the organization known as the Knights of Labor in Detroit in 1883, can we be said to have had anything upon the statute books of Michigan as the result of purely labor agitation. As it is the labor laws are few, and none are of any great importance.

Laber the Common Let.

Until comparatively recent times, compulsory personal servitude or serf-Join appears to have been the common lot of the greater portion of the human race, not only of the class denominated manual laborers." but largely also of those persons skilled in the higher branches of knowledge. "The simple wish to use the bodily powers of another person," says Sir Henry Maine, "as a means of ministering to one's swn ease or pleasure is doubtless the foundation of slavery and as old as the sum of the short of th

In ancient Egypt a shocking picture of life in the mines and stone quarries agiven by Diodorus Siculus. "The wages of the Egyptian workmen were laboriously earned, and barely sufficed to keep body and soul together. Wages were almost always soil," he says, "naturally black, is braversed with veins of marble of exressive whiteness, surpassing in bril-isancy the meet shiming substances; out of which the overseers cause the gold to be dug by the labor of a vast multi-lude of people; for the kings of Egypt tondems to the mines notorious criminals, prisoners of war, persons convicted by false accusations or the victims of recentment. And not only the individuals themselves but sometimes even their whole families are deemed to this labor, with a view of punishing the guesty and profiting by their toil.

Wark Without Intermission. "The vast numbers employed in these mines are bound in fetters, and compelled to work day and might without intermission, and without the least hope of escape, for they set over them barbarian soldiers, who speak a foreign language, so that there is no possibility of conclusing them by persussion, or the kindred feelings which result from familiar converse. centaining the gold is hard they soften it by the application of fire and when it has been reduced to such a state that it yields to moderate labor, several pick it up with iron picks. Over the whole work presides an engineer, who views and selects the stone, and points it out to the laborers. The strongest of hem provided with iron chisels, cleave he marble-shining rock by mere force, without any attempt at skill; and in ex-savating the shafts below the ground they follow the direction of the shining stratum without keeping a straight line. In order to see in these dark windings they fasten lamps to their foreheads, having their bodies painted, other color, according to the nature of the rock, and as they cut the stone, it fails in masses on the floor, the overmands and blows. They are followed by little boys, who take away the fragments as they fall, and carry them

Their Naksdaess Uncovered.

"Those who are above thirty years of are are employed to pound pieces of stone of certain dimensions with iron pesties in stone mertars, until reduced to the size of a lentil. It is then transferred to weenen and old men, who put into mills arranged in a long row, two or three persons being employed at the same mill, and it is ground until reduced to a fine powder. No attention is paid to their persons. They have not even a piece of rag to cover them-selves, and so wratched is their condi-tion that everyone who witnesses it deplores the excessive misery they en-dure. No rest, no intermission from bil, are given to the sitk or maimed. Neither the weakness of age nor wo-men's infirmities are regarded. All are driven to their work with the lash til at last, overcome with the intolerinhappy creatures always expect at present, and long for death as far preferable to life."

Normal Condition of Labor This was the condition of what would now be called "couviet labor," but let us

sow he called "couviet labor," but let us yee what was the condition of labor higher normal conditions, and among pitteens and laborers resting under no zivil or criminal disability.

Folgramy was authorized by law. Men of the lower classes had but one wife; frequently their own sister or a pear relative. The men were rarely at home during the day, and sithough the Egyptian was stubborn, singgest.

Before the Unity club last Tuesday and somewhat obtuse in feeling, the evening the Hon. R. A. Maynard read family was united and loving. The the following exhaustive and critical artisan usually left at sunrise bare-review of the labor question:

We do not here speak of labor under wearing an old felt cap fitting tightly to the skull, his only covering for the body being a pair of cotton drawers just reaching below the hips. His food consists of a little dried fish, one or two onions, two cakes of dhours, and s little oil in which to moisten his bread. At noon he stops to eat and work until sunset. One of the poets thus describes the life of an Egyptian

> 2000 B. C: No Rest From Onerous Tasks.

blacksmith and other mechanics about

at sunrise, even if his knees and spine break with toil. The barber shaves even in the night. To be able to eat, to be able to lie down, he must go from district to district searching for custom ers. He must overwork himself, as well as his two hands, to fill his belly. Thus the honey is eaten only by those who make it. The fingers of the dyer stink with the odor of decayed fish, his two eyes ache with weariness, his

salt provisions, a few measures of oil, and en holidays one or two jars of wine. The workmen were goaded to renewed energy by the application of the taskmaster's rod. "Man has a back, and only obeys when it is beaten," says an old Egyptian proverb. None were exempt, from the beggar at the gate to the highest minister, in the presence of the divine Pharoah. All civil, industrial and military administration was carried on under the appli completely had it entered into the social life of the ancient Egyptian, that social life of the ancient Egyptian, that a person who had never been beaten before a magistrate was regarded as a most exceptional being, and the fact as worthy of being recorded upon his tomb. Were we not assured to the contrary, we should imagine a priori that the Egyptian must have been given to pessignistic speculations and given to pessimistic speculations and and morose. Such, however, was not the case. "The workman, resigned beforehand, patiently labors under the rod that threatens him, with intelli-gence, even with gaiety. His mind is naturally lively, and his repartee quick. He instinctively seizes the pleasant side of things, and knows how to give a piquant turn to his slightest withcisms. The smallest incident in the day's work—an awkward apprentice cutting his finger, a comrade sleeping over his task, whom the overseer lashes to awaken him, an ass suddenly braying in the quiet street outside—anything serves as a pretext for amusement. Laughter breaks the silence, then tongues chatter, scoffs and merry jokes pass 'round, the stick vainly interferes, at least an hour clapses before quiet is re-established."

Outbreaks Against Tyrangy.

The Egyptian, however, was not altogether an abject creature, crouching in slavish submission under the rod of the taskmaster. Occasional outbreaks against the tyranny of a superintendeat or overseer were far from uncomon. Even the industrial strike for higher pay, regarded by us as a social phenomenon peculiar to the nineteenth century, was well known to Egyptian mechanics and laborers, and occa-sionally resorted to with success. Maspero, the distinguished French

Egyptologist, thus described what is probably the earliest recorded strike in all history. It may be assigned to a period about 2000 before the Christian

one end of the street, the growd is vioworkmen, shouting, gesticulating, their bodies and taces covered with clay and mortar, force their way through, dragging in the midst of them three or four frightened, piteous-looking arribes. These are the masons employed in the new buildings of the temple of Mut, who have just gone on strike, and are now on their way to lay their grievances before Pearou, the count-govances before Pearou, the count-gov-ernor of the city and general superin-tendent of the king's works. These small riets are not rare; they apring from hungar and misery. As we know, the greater pertion of the wages consist of wheat, dheurs, oil and ra-tions of food, which the masters non-ally distribute on the first day of every month, and which ought to last until the first of the month following.

reasonably quickly?

Robbed by Their Scribes.

Rebbed by Their Scribes.

"According to their own account, the scribes give them short measure and enrich themselves by the rebbery. On the other hand, the scribes accuse the poor fellows of improvidence and assert that they squander their wages as soon as they receive them. No one could be astonished if both scribes and masons were found to be correct. The malcontents were scarcely outside when the superintendent of the works hastened up, accompanied by a police officer, and began to parley with them. Go back and we solemly awear that we will ourselves lead you to Pharoah, when he comes to inspect the works of the the temple." Two days later Pharoah came, and the scribe Pentovrit went to him with the police officer. The prince, after listening to them, graciously delegated one of the scribes of his suite, and some of the priests of the temple, to have an interview with the workmen. The latter view with the workmen. The latter presented their request in excellent terms. 'We come, pursued by hunger, pursued by thirst, we have no more clothes, no more oil, no more fish or vegetables. Tell this to Pharqah, our master, tell this to Paraoh, our master, tell this to Paraoh, our sovereign, that we may receive the means of living.' Phaaroh, touched by their misery, ordered fifty sacks of corn to be distributed amongst them, and this unexpected windfall enabled them to wait for the end of the month without toe much suffering. view with the workmen. The latter

Demand to Be Heard. "The first days of Ephipi passed fairly quietly, but on the 15th the pro-visions fell short and the discontent revisions fell short and the discontent recommenced. On the 16th the men stopped work and remained idle on the 17th and 18th. On the 19th the men endeavored to leave the work-yard in the morning, but the scribe Pentovsit, who had overleaged them, had secretly doubled the guard and had taken his precautions so wisely that the workmen could not get outside the gates. They passed the whole day consulting and plotting together in small groups. At last, this morning at sunrise they assembled at the foot of an unfinished wall, and seeing the superintendent of the works coming to make his reunds, they rushed toward him any surrounded him, making a great neise. Vainly he endeavored to calm them. They would not listen. Their shouts attracted other officials and several of the pressts of Mut; the workmen impact of the pressure of the present century, the chrenicle of laber is its liberalization and the splendid rise of the physical sciences at the commencement of the present century, the chrenicle of laber is, indeed, horrible resort the present century, the chrenicle of laber is, indeed, horrible resort is intended to intended the present century, the chrenicle of laber is, indeed, horrible resort is intended.

The pressure of the present century, the chrenicle of laber is, indeed mediately hastened toward them and appealed to the superintendent to explain the matter. 'By Amen,' they said, 'by the sovereign whose rage destroys, we will not go back to work. You can tell this to your superiors, who are assembled there.' At last, tired of protesting and obtaining nething, they suddenly decided to go to the governor of Thebes and to appeal to him for justice. The distance is not walk through the streets, not without exchanging some blows with the crowd, which did not make way quickly enough, and the rioters have reached

"It opens in a long, low, crenelated wall, above which a large acacia lifts its leafy head and gives access to a large courtyard surrounded with buildings. On the left stands the master's dwelling, built of freestone; it is narrow and floor, surmounted by two stories and a terrace; in the center are two gransterrace; in the center are two granaries for corn, rounded at the tep; on
the extreme right is a large vaulted
cellar. The door-keeper had put up
the asfety bars at the first noise, but
the swing-doors yielded under the
strong pressure from without. The
whole band simultaneously enters the
court and waits there a little uncertain
what to do nort. sione suffices to impress the men trained from infancy to bow before a master. At last one of them decides to speak; the others appland, timidly at first, then they become excited at the tale of their sufferings. They refuse to listen when the governor endeavors to soother them them with promises. Words are no longer sufficient, they clamor loudly for action. 'Will the overseers give us some corn in addition to the distribu-tion aiready made? If not, we will not move from here.' At this moment crowd and softly warns Pearou that Pharaon left, the palace a quarter of an hour ago, that he is going towards the Temple of Amen, and will pass the house. In fact his except has already reached the neighborhood.

Pharneh Stope a Riot.

"Pharaeb coming upon a riot. Pharaeh himself hearing the workmen's complaint. Pearou rapidly decides upon his movements, and, interruptng the discussion, calls his stoward. 'See how much corn there is in the granaries and give it to the men.' Then, the granaries with the steward and take what he gives you.' The crowd, not knowing the motive of this sudden decision, attributes it to an impulse of natural generosity, and loudly expresses father, and we are thy sons. Thou art the eld man's staff, the nurse of chil-dren, the helper of the distressed. Thou art a warm shelter for all who are cold in Theles. Thou art the head of the afflicted, that never fails the people of our land.' There is a profusion of thanks and gratitude. Pearon outs these protestations short and hastens the departure of the men, and does not breathe freely until the lest of strikers has despreased behind the granaries with the steward. In five minutes the court is empty and the street has resumed its usual appear ance. Pharanh may come." Such was an Egyptian strike 4000 years ago.

Chaides and Babrica In ancient Chaldes and the city of Bakylon the great canals, public roads,

Jews was, perhaps, the best in the ancient world of the east. Slavery was recognized, men and women being openly sold in the market place, but every Hebrew slave, however, became free at the recurrence of the year of jubilee.

similar to those of surrounding nations. Some curious details are given in the Shu-king, or Book of History, compiled by Confucius, but, as the details relate mostly to penal institutions, they will not detain us here.

What is known of the condition of What is known of the condition of labor is classical antiquity is easily obtainable and fairly well known. It will suffice to say that in Greece all manual labor was performed by slaves. Slavery was a recognized institution under all forms of government. The conditions of labor in Rome, whether under the republic or the empire, did not differ much from those in Athens

The introduction of Christianity brought no relief to the millions doomed to a life of toil. Manumission and abolition have never been adopted as a part of its creed. Christianity has always been essentially pessimistic. Man's life upon earth was regarded as a painful pilgrienage from the life that is to the life that is to come. The greater the suffering and tribulation of earthly life, the greater the reward in the celestial life to come. From being a little band with lofty ethical sanc-tions, of whom it was said, "Behold how these Christians love one another." it degenerated into an all-devouring political machine, striving with tem-poral rulers for universal political su-

poral rulers for universal political supremacy. Whatever of power it possessed to humanize and morally regenerate had passed away in the struggle for political usurpation.

From the introduction of Christianity to its liberalization and the splendid rise of the physical sciences at the commencement of the present century, the chronicle of laber is, indeed, horrible reading. One bright gleam, however, should not pass unnoticed before we quit this introductory and glance at labor laws as a species of class legislation.

race was most happy and prosperous, he would, without hesitation, name that which elapsed from the death of Domitian to the accession of Com-modus. The vast extent of the Roman empire was governed by absolute power, under the guidance of virtue and wisdom. The armies were restrained by the firm but gentle hand of acters and authority commanded in-voluntary respect. The forms of the served by Neiva, Trajau, Hadrian, and the Antoimes, who delighted in the image of liberty, and were pleased with considering themselves as the accountable ministers of the law. Such princes deserved the honor of restoring the republic, had the Romans of their days been capable enjoying a rational freedom. They beheld the general happiness of which they were the authors."

Enrifest Lab or Legislation. We will now briefly pass in review the labor legislation in England, omitting all mention of the status of the laborer during the Dark Ages.

In the great compact of English political liberty, known as Magna Charta, the laborer was not deemed worthy of any particular notice. The provisions against forced construction of reads, bridges, etc., did not apply to him, but were in relief of the higher classes. The first piece of direct labor legislation was enacted in the third year of Edward III. This is commonly known as the Statue of Laborers. The black death had swept over England causing a great scarcity of laborers. A demand for higher wages necessarily followed. Its provisions were as fol-

1. No person under 60 years of age, whether serf or free, shall decline to undertake farm labor at the wages which had been customary in the king's twentieth year (1347), except he live by merchandise, was regularly engaged in some mechanical craft, was possessed of private means, or was the oc-cupier of land. The lord was to have first claim to the labor of his serfs, and those who declined to work for him or for others are to be sent to the common gaol. 2. Imprisonment is decreed against all persons who may quit the service before the time which is fixed in their

agreements. 3. No other than the old wages to be given, and the remedy against those who seek to get more is to be brought in the lord's court. 4. Lords of manors paying more

than the customary amount are to be liable to tripple damages.

5. Artificers are to be liable to the same conditions, the artificers enumerated being saddlers, tanners, farriers, shoemakers, tailors, smiths, carpenters, masons, tilers. pargetters, carters, 6. Food must be sold at reasonable

prices. 7. Alms are strictly forbidden to able. bodied laborers.

". Any excess of wages taken or paid can be seized for the king's use towards the payment of a fifteenth and tenth lately granted. The statute provides for a difference between summer and winter wages, and guards against the emigration of the town population to country places in summer.

Another Labor Statuta

Another statute passed two years later (25 Edward III) realfirms the previous one, and minutely regulates wages. Again in 1300 (34 Edward III) the furmer Statute of Laborers was

after a day of hard work in which they have only eaches, season with a little muddy water, about 12 o'clock? During the first days of the month the family satisfy their houger without sparing the provisions; towards the middle the portions dimnish and complaints begin; during the last week seems and complaints begin; during the last week ship the seribes in the workyards, or simply the books of the overseers, we shall find notes in the end of each month the men defence of the scribes in the mode of the scribes in the workyards, or simply the books of the overseers, we shall find notes in the end of each month the men of the scribes in the mode of the scribes of the scribes in the mode of

Earty Iastance of Chile Labor.

By an act of Richard II (1888, 12)
Richard II) neither laborer or servant could leave the hundred in which he resided without letters patent under the king's seal. This act also affords us a glimpse of child labor. "It is ordained and assented that he and she which useth to labor at the plough and cart, or other labor or services of husbandry, till they be of the age of 12 years, shall from henceforth abide at the said labor without being put to any trade or handicraft, and, if any covenant or bond of apprenticeship be from henceforth made to the contrary, the same shall be holden for none." An act of the following year (13 Richard II) directed justices to proclaim the rate of wages for laborers from Easter to Michæimas. An act of Henry IV requires a property qualification for apprenticeship and directs that children be put to such labor as their fathers and mothers are of, on penalty of fine and ransom and of one hundred shilling for receiving such apprentices. There is a noticeable feature in this ling for receiving such apprentices. There is a noticeable feature in this statute in relation to the schooling of children. It provides that "any per-son may send their children to school to learn literature." Fice in Defiance of Law

The same statute imposes a penalty upon towns and cities which neglect to provide stocks for holding refactory

workmen. An act of 1414 (2 Henry V) recites that owing to the laxity of justices in enforcing the law, servants and labor-ers flee from county to county in de-fisnce of the law. The previous acts were confirmed, and justices of the peace are empowered to issue writs to the sheriffs for fugitive workmen in the sheriffs for fugitive workmen in like manner as they have power to send to the sheriffs for the apprehension of criminals before indictment. Barly in the following reign power was given to magistrates to compel by process the attendance of masters as witnesses in the enforcement of the statute of Henry V, and to give offenders a month's imprisonment. This power was conferred by 2 Henry VI, 1423. In 1427, four years later, further legislation was resorted to in regard to the statutes of Richard II—that of 12 Richard II, because it was too hard upon ard II, because it was too hard upon the masters, that of 13 Richard II, because no penalty was attached to its breach. The 6 Henry VI, c. 3, reme-died the supposed defects and directed the justices to fix the rate of wages and then proclaim the same. The statute 3 Henry VI made it felony, punishable

ters relating to trade. It recited that "by the annual con-gregations and confederacies made by sembled, the good courses and effect of the statute of laborers are publicly violated and broken, in subversion of the law, and grievous damage of all the commonalty. In the year 1444 (23 Henry VI) a scale of wages in agriculture and trade was fixed. An agricultural laborer must give his master half a year's notice before leaving; neglect to do this involved service for the fol-Persons refusing to service under these conditions were committed to prison. wards the close of the fifteenth cen-tury (1495), is remarkable as containing a clause against unlawful combinations of workmen engaged in the build-ing trade. It says that if laborers or artificers "make or cause to be made any person assigned to control or over see them in their working, that he or they so offending have imprisonment for a year without letting to bail or mainprice, and further to make fine at the king's will."

We may here refer to the savage and loody laws made against vagrancy in the latter part of the sixteenth century. the latter part of the sixteenth century.

The suppression of the monasteries had withdrawn a partial support from time, usually received as the fruit of withdrawn a partial support from thousands of the indigent, idle or wretched. The scattering of this great body of men throughout the paid more, and became the envy of his kingdom was not unattended with danger. As usual, recourses was had lash, the branding iren, or the gallows was powerless in the face of hunger gars and force them into some settled course of obtaining an honest livelihood. Under Heary VIII, Edward VI, the Elizabeth, harsh and cruel measures were passed for the suppression of offeness which the suppression of offeness. sion of offenses, which now-a-days would be clearly perceived to be economic in origin and amenable to economic treatment. Laws multiplied and became more barsh and bloody as they terror was inaugurated under Henry VIII; but the infliction of the death penalty became of such frequent occurrence that it soon ceased to strike ierrer to hearts of those that witnessed it. It is said that 72,000 persons were executed in the reign of Henry VIII atone, a period of thirty-eight years. In 1530 (22 Henry VIII), any person found begging and being un-able to give a satisfactory account of his method of earning a living, might be arrested at the discretion of a con-"till his body be bloody by reason of such whipping." If rufflers, sturdy vagabonds and valuant beggars refuse to work after being whipped, they are to have the upper part of the gristle of the right ear shorn away. If they at: [] remain stubborn they are to be tried and executed as felons. Stavery Under Edward VI.

But of all the laws over made in England for the repression of labor, that of Edward VI, made at the time of his accession, was the most disgraceful and humiliating. Any lonterer, wanderer, or person wanting a master and not applying himself to honest labor might be select and branded with the letter "V", and sold into slavery for

day, week, month, year or taking any other work at any other person's hand whatsoever." To take more or less declared to be an effense.

Cessation of Interference We may now pass on to the time of George II., for the intervening legislation is in behalf of particular trades, or relat-ed rather to the poor laws than to the subject under discussion. After the middle of the eighteenth century the legislature is content to leave matters pertaining to labor to be settled by mutual sgreement between those most interested, and to concern itself only with the regulation of summary juris-

diction in cases of dispute between em-ployers and employed.

The statute 20, George II., c. 19, passed in 1746, provides that all disputes between masters and laborers in husbandry, or arising between masters and artificers are to be determined by and artificers are to be determined by one or more justices, and that in the case of a master who shall fail to make payment of any judgment, the same is to be secured by levy and distress of his goods. The law, however, was far from placing servant and master on a footing of equality. The servant might be fined, or he might be punished by being sent to prison, there to be corrected, by what is meant, there to be whipped. The statute (4 George IV c. 34), the next general statute, deprived the magistrate of the power to inflict corporal punishment, and treated breaches of contract or misconduct as punishable by imprisonment, or by loss punishable by imprisonment, or by loss of part or the whole of wages already Equality at Last.

This remained the law until 1867, Dakota has a severe conspiracy laws into the state of law relating to labor, and report on the expediency of amending it. The law of 1867, known as the master and servant act, some-times called Lord Elcho's act, was framed upon the report of the comthe position of workmen towards an equality before the law. It required equality before the law. It required but one step more thoroughly to emancipate the laborer, and place him on the same level before the law as his employer. This was taken in the employers and workmen bill of 1875. A few weeks after the passage of the bill the prime minister of Great Britain said that, by the passing of the act of that year, for the first time in the history of the country the employer and tory of the country the employer and the employed sat under equal laws. Thus did it take the English workman more than half a thousand years to unfold the fetters with which parlia-ment had bound him.

The American Workman.

Before speaking of the labor laws of the various states of the American union, let us look at the American mechanic and laborer at the close of the last century and the beginning of this. Mr. McMaster says "that a man who performed what would now be considered unskilled labor, who sawed wood, dug ditches, mended roads, mixed mortar, who carried boards to fellows if, at the end of the week, he took home to his family fifteen shillings, a sum now greatly exceeded by \$4. Yet all authorities agree that in

1784 the hire of the workman was twice as great as in 1774. Strict Economy Required. "On such a pittance it was only by the strictest economy that a mechanic kept his children from starvation and himself from jail. In the lew and dingy rooms which he called his home ware wanting many articles of adernment and of use, new to be found in the the floor did duty as a carpet. There was no glass on his table, there was no chins in his cusboard, there was no he did not know, coal be had never seen; matches he had never heard of. barrels, which he lit with the sparks struck from a flint, or with the live coals brought from a neighbor's hearth his wife cooked up a rude meal and served it in powter dishes. He tarely tasted freeh meat as often as once in week, and paid for it a much lugh price than his prosperity. Everythin indeed, which ranked as a steple of life was very costly. Corn steed at three shillings a busnel, wheat at eight and sixpence, an assize of bread was fourpence, a pound of salt purk was tempence. Many other commodities now to be seen on the tables of the poor were eather quite unknown or far beyond the reach of his scanty means. Paor Clother and Food.

"Unenviable is the lot of that man who cannot, in the height of the seaheaped with backets and crates of fruit. spare 3 cents for a pound of grapes or Sunday comes around, indulys his family with watermelons or cantalogues. He was to be placed at any kind of for grape was the only kind that found legislation. Much of the repulsion re-

its way to the market, and was the luxury of the rich. If the food of the artisan would now be thought coarse his clothes would be thought abonto able. A pair of yellow bucketin of leathern breeches, a checked shirt, financi jacket, a rusty feit hat, cocked up at the corners, shoes of neat's skin set off with huge buckles of branches of with thuse buckles of branches and a leathern apron comprised his wardrobe. The leather besmeared with grease to keep it soft and fiexible His and followed in his footsteps, or were apprenticed to neighboring trades men.

"His daughter went out to service. She performed, inded, all the duties at present exacted from women of he class; but with them were completed many others rendered tracked by the great improvement that has taken place in the conveniences of life. She mended the clother, she did up the ruffs, she ran on arrands from one say of the town to the other, she milited the cows, hade the butter, walked to blocks for a pail of water, spun flax for the fair y linen, and when the year was up received £10 for her wages. Yet, small as was her pay, she had, he fore bestowing herself in marriage on the footman or the gardener, laid away in her stocking enough guineas and jous to buy a few chairs, a table and a bed. One hundred years ago the laborer who fell from a scaffold or lay sick of a fever was sure to be seized by the sheriff the moment he recovered and be carried off to jail for a bill of a few dollars which had been run up during his illness."

Time will not allow us to do mi Time will not allow us to do more than glance at the present condition of labor laws in our own country. We therefore present an epitome of the legislation in the varietie states on the subject of labor, premising our remarks by saying that the laws on any particular subject are very much the same in all the states, and have the appearance of being copied from our original. They all follow certain lines, such as a mine and factory inspertion. original, a first and factory inspection, proper provision for escape from burning buildings, women's labor and the labor of children and young persons. the abolition or the truck system in the payment of wages, provision for school attendance, the hours of labor. and the establishment of bureaus of

industrial statistics.

The California code of 1876 provided that minor children, unless engaged in vinicultural or herticultural occupa-tions, must not work over eight hours

Connecticut makes eight hours r lawful day, unless otherwise agreed Children under 14 can be employed only under certain conditions. Build-ings must be provided with suitable fire

rected against employes. Women

and children under 14, must not be eno ploved in any one day more than let

Failure to provide proper fire escapes is punishable by a fine of \$200 in Dela-

The Georgia code of ISS2 provides that the hours of labor for persons un-der 21 shall be from sunrice to sunset in all manufacturing establishments. Corporal punishment is abelished, and any person violating is liable in on so-

Eight hours is a legal day's work in the state of Illinois for all mechanical employments, except farms and when otherwise agreed. Boes not apply to service by day, week or month, or prevent contracts for longer hours. No person under 14, or female of any age, is permitted to work in a mine. The mining law seems ample for the protection of miners. All buildings in the future must have necessary fire escapes before completion.

According to the revised statutes of Indiana for 1881 any owner, agent or foreman of factory eraploying any per-son male or female under the age of 18 for a longer period than ten hours in any one day, shall be fined from \$50 to \$100. There is a comprehensive min-ing law with provisions against child labor. No railway company may exact from its employer without their written concent in each case any purtion of their wages for any hospital, reading room, library, gymnasinto of restaurant.

lows has a mining law similar to that of Colorado.

Kansas has a mining law, which is much like that of Colerado. It provided that no children under 12 years of age shall be employed in mines, and none between 12 and 16, unless they can show at least three months' school. attendance in the previous year.

Maine is careful in the provinces which it makes for egress from burning or otherwise dangerous buildings. Ten hours of actual labor is a day's work except in monthly or agreed-tural work, or where otherwise at-pulated. Children under 12 years of age can not be employed in any cotton-or woolen factory unless they have at-tended school for four mouths during the previous year. No one under 16 can be employed over ten hours a day. Marriand.

Any mercentile or manufacture business in the city of Baltimore no provide seats for its women employed when not actively employed. Any five or more persons engaged in the same or similar occupation, a majority bear citizens of Maryland, may meeryeen estizent of Maryland, may appropriate as a "trades-union." An agreement or combination by two or more persons in furtherance of a trade dispute he iween employer and employe, shall not be held to be a completely if a six lar est by one person would not be an offense. Unless by special contract a day's work chall not expect to hours the mines of Allegheny and Carrett in the mines of Allegheny and Gazanti counties. Children under 16 are not a be employed for more than ten house a day. Violation by parent, guardian, or employer is principalise by fine units

Has many laws relating to labor, and